Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9075
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

SECRET DAR ES SALAAM 2725

EXDIS

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Z.O.11652: XGDS-1 (DATE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE)

TAGS: PINS, UG, OAU, MILI, TZ

SUBJECT: GO-AHEAD FOR UGANDA COUP ATTEMPT GIVEN

REF: A) DAR ES SALAAM 1322 (NOTAL)

- B) OPU/CARTER/MACDOUGALL MEMCON DATED JUNE 30, 1975 (NOTAL)
- C) ALLIMADI/OPU/CARTER/MACDOUGALL MEMCON DATED JULY 7, 1975 (NOTAL)
- 1. MATTHEW OPU, EXILED UGANDAN DISSIDENT (REFTEL) VISITED EMBOFF BRIEFLY 0930 HOURS JULY 29 TO INFORM USG OF FOLLOWING:
- 2. OPU AND HIS GROUP HAVE GIVEN ORDERS TO THEIR COMMANDERS INSIDE UGANDA TO STRIKE AT AMIN IMMEDIATELY, AND IN ANY EVENT BEFORE OAU SUMMITT CONFERENCE ENDS SATURDAY. IF AMIN ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, DISSIDENTS INSIDE OF UGANDA ORDERED TO "ENGAGE IN WHOLESALE WAR". REASON FOR HASTE IS THAT AMIN HAS LEARNED OF PLOT, AND IS ONLY WAITING FOR END OF AOU SUMMIT TO STRIKE AT DISSIDENTS BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE UGANDA. FURTHER, ACCORDING TO OPU, AMIN INTENDS TO INVADE TANZANIA AFTER OAU SUMMIT COMPLETED.
- 3. OPU: WHO RETURNED FROM LONDON LAST THURSDAY, SAYS HE HAS BEEN MANNING HIS "COMMAND POST" IN DAR CONTINUOUSLY SINCE SATURDAY. HE SECRET

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HAD TALKED TO COMMANDERS INSIDE UGANDA BY TELEPHONE AT 0800 HOURS TOD

AY,

AND EXPECTED A TELEPHONED REPORT FROM THEM AT 1000 HOURS. HE SAID HE WILL KEEP EMBOFF INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS WHEN AND AS HE CAN GET AWAY FROM COMMAND POST.

- 4. OPU SAYS TANGOV AWARE OF HIS GROUP'S PLANS AND BACKS THEM "100 PERCENT". TANGOV ALSO AWARE OF AMIN'S INVASION PLANS.
- 5. OPU BELIEVES LEAK OF PLOT TO AMIN COMES FROM OBOTE HIMSELF, OR POSSIBLY SAMUEL ODAKA, FORMER UGANDAN FONMIN NOW IN DAR, OR (FNU) MUSEVENI, A TEACHER AT TANZANIAN COOPERATIVE COLLEGE IN MOSHI WHO PARTICIPATED IN OBOTE'S ABORTIVE 1972 INVASION OF UGANDA. OPU BELIEVES OBOTE FORCES SEEK TO FRUSTRATE ASSASSINATION PLOT, AND TO THIS END WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR RECENT DISTRIBUTION OF LEAFLETS IN DAR, PURPORTEDLY FROM "UGANDA LIBERATION COMMITTEE", CALLING FOR OVERTHROW OF AMIN AND SABOTAGE OF AOU SUMMIT.
- 5. HAVING IMPARTED THE ABOVE, OPU RUSHED OFF, REMARKING IN LEAVING THAT DISSIDENTS HAD LAST SATURDAY EXPLODED A BOMB IN KAMPALA AND ALSO BLOWN UP A PETROL TANK, IN ORDER TO STIR UP CONFUSION.
- 6. COMMENT: THOUGH THE COUP EFFORTS OF OPU'S GROUP HAVE NOT HAD RESULTS IN THE PAST, HE SEEMS FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT IT MUST STRIKE HARD IMMEDIATELY OR FACE AMIN'S RETALIATION.

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

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Subject: GO-AHEAD FOR UGANDA COUP ATTEMPT GIVEN TAGS: PINS, MILI, UG, TZ, OAU, (AMIN DADA, IDA)
To: STATE

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